

Odd Nesting Habits of the Blue Yellow-backed Warbler in Missouri.—

Mr. Otto Widmann has kindly sent me a nest of the Blue Yellow-backed Warbler (*Parula americana*) which he took near St. Louis, Mo., June 8, 1885. It differs in every particular from the delicate pensile nest which the species commonly builds in the East, where hanging lichens abound on the trees. Mr. Widmann writes me: "It was situated in a bunch of dead leaves and rubbish, such as is often found hanging from those branches of trees which are reached by high water in creeks, freshets, etc. The tree from which I took the nest is a birch, and the twig a long pendulous one, the terminal three feet of which had been immersed by the last high water and had caught and retained a bulky conglomeration of straw, sticks, and dry leaves. At the time of collection (June 8) the nest was 6-8 feet above the water (of Meramec River, St. Louis Co.), and contained five young ones about ten days old."

The nest itself is a small, open, cup-shaped affair, composed chiefly of small rootlets, fine grass, and a moss, intermixed with a few tufted seeds of some plant, and sparingly lined with horse hairs. It measures, externally, 70 mm. in diameter by 70 mm. in depth; internally, 45 mm. in diameter by 40 mm. in depth.—C. HART MERRIAM, *Locust Grove, N. Y.*

Swainson's Warbler in Jamaica.—The following note is intended to supplement the information already contributed to this Journal by Mr. Brewster and others concerning the distribution of Swainson's Warbler (*Helinaia swainsoni*).

In the Proceedings of the Zoölogical Society of London for 1879, Prof. Alfred Newton of Cambridge, England, records the capture of a single specimen of this species from Jamaica. He says: "It is an extremely rare species and I doubt whether a second example has ever been seen in this country. The present was killed by my brother at Hope, in the parish of St. Andrew, February 8, 1879, and was found by him to be a male. I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. Ridgway, of the Smithsonian Institution, for the determination of this specimen of a species I never saw before" (p. 552).

The above example proved to be the first of a series of eight taken in Jamaica by Mr. Edward Newton and now in the Museum of Zoölogy at Cambridge, England. Through the kindness of Professor Newton, I was permitted, last April, to examine these specimens and transcribe the following data concerning the dates and places of capture:

♂ Feb. 8, 1879. Hope, St. Andrews Parish.

♀ Feb. 18, 1879. Port Royal Mt., St. Thomas Parish.

♀ April 8, 1879. Hermitage, St. Andrews Parish.

♀ Oct. 1, 1879. Mt. Elizabeth.

Oct. 7, 1879. Mt. Elizabeth.

♂ Dec. 21, 1881. Mt. Elizabeth.

♀ March 16, 1882. Mt. Elizabeth.

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